

Amendment to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Canceled)

2. (Currently Amended) An information processing apparatus comprising:

_____ at least having a processing unit and an output unit,

said processing apparatus unit including: comprising:

an encryption processing device for performing an encryption process on a part, but not all, of a digital content, ~~which that~~ is an object for protection from unauthorized use, to an audiovisual sense, and is

_____ wherein said digital content that is an object for protection from unauthorized use is divided into a plurality of blocks, one or some of which is are encrypted and a remainder of which is are not unencrypted, by using encryption key information shared with said output unit; and

a transfer device for transferring the part of the digital content which has been encrypted along with the remaining unencrypted part of the digital content to said output unit, and

said output unit including comprises:

an input device for inputting the digital content transferred from said processing apparatus unit; and

~~a decryption processing device for performing a decryption process on the encrypted part of the inputted digital content by using the encryption key information shared with said processing apparatus; and~~

an output device for outputting the digital content in a contaminated state including both decrypted from the encrypted part thereof as well as the remaining unencrypted part of the digital content.

3. - 5. (Canceled)

6. (Previously Presented) An information processing apparatus according to claim 2, wherein said encryption processing device performs an encryption process, with a formatted unit of the digital content in an unencrypted manner taken as one unit, on a part of the units as a subject of the encryption process, and whether each block is encrypted, is controlled for each block.

7. (Previously Presented) An information processing apparatus according to claim 2, wherein said output unit is a sound reproducing unit, said encryption processing device performs an encryption process, with a plurality of samples of sound data taken as one unit, on sound data to be outputted to said sound reproducing unit and a part, but not all, of the sound data units is processed as a subject of the encryption process, and whether each block is encrypted, is controlled for each block.

8. (Previously Presented) An information processing apparatus according to claim 2, wherein said output unit is a display unit, said encryption processing device performs an encryption process, with a plurality of lines of display data taken as one unit a part, but not all, of the display data units is processed as a subject of the encryption process in a line direction of the display data to be outputted to said display unit, or performs an encryption process, with a plurality of columns of display data taken as one unit, and a part of the display data units is processed as a subject of the encryption process in a column direction of the display data to be outputted to said display unit, and whether each block is encrypted, is controlled for each block.

9. (Previously Presented) An information processing apparatus according to claim 2, wherein, said output unit is a display unit, said encryption processing device performs an encryption process, with data in an amount of one pixel of display data to be outputted to said display unit taken as one unit, and one part of the display data units is processed, as a subject of the encryption process, and whether each block is encrypted, is controlled for each block.

10. (Currently Amended) A display unit comprising:

an input device for inputting display data encrypted in part, but not all, thereof;
said display data including a digital content, which is an object for protection
from unauthorized use~~to an audiovisual sense~~, and which is divided into a plurality of
blocks, ~~one or some~~ a plurality of which ~~is~~ are encrypted and a remainder ~~remaining~~
plurality of which ~~is~~ are unencrypted.

~~_____ a decryption processing device for performing a decryption process on the inputted encrypted part of the display data by using encryption key information shared with an information processing apparatus as a transfer source of the display data; and~~

~~a display device for displaying the digital content in a contaminated state including both the encrypted part as well as the remaining unencrypted part of the digital content display data decrypted from the encrypted part thereof.~~

11. (Previously Presented) A display unit according to claim 10, wherein a digital content to be inputted by said input device is encrypted, with a plurality of lines of display data taken as one unit, a part of the display data units is processed as a subject of the encryption process in a line direction of the display data in an unencrypted manner, or, with a plurality of columns of display data taken as one meaning unit, and a part, but not all, of the display data units is a subject of encryption processing in a column direction of the display data in an unencrypted manner, and whether each block is encrypted, is controlled for each block.

12. (Previously Presented) A display unit according to claim 10, wherein a digital content to be inputted by said input device is encrypted, with data in an amount of one pixel of unencrypted display data taken as one unit, and one part of the display data units is processed, as a subject of the encryption process, and whether each block is encrypted, is controlled for each block.

13. (Currently Amended) A digital content distributing system having a digital content distributing apparatus for distributing a digital content and an information processing apparatus for transferring the digital content distributed from the digital content distributing apparatus to an output unit,

said digital content distributing apparatus comprising:

a storage device storing a digital content, of which part, but not all, is encrypted in meaning by using first encryption key information shared with said information processing apparatus; and

a distributing device for distributing the stored digital content to said information processing apparatus,

said information processing apparatus comprising:

an input device for inputting the digital content distributed from said digital content distributing apparatus;

a decryption processing device for performing a decryption process on the encrypted part of the inputted digital content by using the first encryption key information;

an encryption processing device for performing an encryption process on a part, but not all, of the digital content, which is an object for protection from unauthorized use to an audiovisual sense, and is divided into a plurality of blocks, one or some of which is encrypted and a remainder of which is unencrypted, the digital content being decrypted from the encrypted part by using second encryption key information shared with said output unit; and

a transfer device for transferring the encrypted digital content to said output unit, and

said output unit comprising:

an input device for inputting the digital content transferred from said information processing apparatus;

a decryption processing device for performing a decryption process on the encrypted part of the inputted digital content by using the second encryption key information; and

an output device for outputting the digital content in a contaminated state including both the encrypted part as well as the remaining unencrypted part of the digital content ~~the digital content decrypted from the encrypted part;~~

~~wherein said encryption processing device of said digital content distributing apparatus and said encryption processing device of said information processing apparatus perform an encryption process, with a formatted unit of the digital content in unencrypted form taken as one unit, on a part of the formatted units as a subject of encryption process.~~

14. (Currently Amended) A method for distributing a digital content from a digital content distributing apparatus to an information processing apparatus and outputting the distributed digital content by an output unit, in a digital content distributing system having the digital content distributing apparatus for distributing the digital content and the information processing apparatus for transferring the digital content distributed

from the digital content distributing apparatus to the output unit, said method comprising the steps of:

distributing, by said digital content distributing apparatus, a digital content, of which part, but not all, is encrypted, by using first encryption key information shared with said information processing apparatus, to said information processing apparatus;

performing, by said information processing apparatus, a decryption process, using the first encryption key information, on the encrypted part of the digital content distributed from said digital content distributing apparatus, and an encryption process, using second encryption key information shared with said output unit, on a part of the digital content, which is an object for protection from unauthorized use to an audiovisual sense, and is divided into a plurality of blocks, one or some of which is encrypted and a remainder of which is unencrypted, the digital content being decrypted from the encrypted part, and then transferring the encrypted digital content to said output unit; and

~~performing a decryption process, using the second encryption key information, on the encrypted part of the digital content transferred from said information processing apparatus and outputting the digital content decrypted in the encrypted part, by said output unit;~~

~~wherein outputting the digital content which is an object for protection from unauthorized use in a contaminated state including both the encrypted part as well as the remaining unencrypted part of the digital content to be distributed by said digital content distributing apparatus and the digital content to be transferred by said~~

~~information processing apparatus are encrypted, with a formatted unit of the digital content in unencrypted form taken as one unit, on a part of the formatting units as a subject of the encryption process.~~

15. (New) An information processing apparatus comprising:

an encryption processing device for performing an encryption process on a part, but not all, of a digital content subject to compression,

said encryption processing device configured to divide said digital content into a plurality of blocks, and encrypt some of said blocks, while a remainder of said blocks are not encrypted based on a compression characteristic of each block; and

an output device for uncompressing and outputting the digital content in a contaminated state including both the encrypted part thereof as well as the remaining unencrypted part of the digital content.

16. (New) The apparatus according to claim 15,

wherein the digital content includes motion image data in data compression MPEG (Moving Picture Experts Group) format having frames with predetermined compression characteristics, wherein said frames are used as said blocks,

wherein a frame of a first compression characteristic is encrypted and a frame of a second compression characteristic is not encrypted.

17. (New) An information processing apparatus comprising:

an encryption processing device for performing an encryption process on a part, but not all, of a digital content,

said encryption processing device configured to divide said digital content into at least two sets of data based upon a frequency band division,

such that a first set of data of a first frequency is encrypted and one or more remaining sets of other frequencies are not encrypted; and

an output device for outputting the digital content in a contaminated state including both the encrypted part thereof as well as the remaining unencrypted part of the digital content.

18. (New) The apparatus according to claim 17,

wherein the digital content includes an audio data compression format that is divided into an upper frequency band and a lower frequency band as said at least two sets of data,

wherein one of said upper or lower frequency bands is encrypted and the other of said upper or lower frequency bands is not encrypted.

19. (New) An information processing method comprising:

performing an encryption process on a part, but not all, of a compressed digital content by dividing said digital content into a plurality of blocks, and encrypting some of said blocks based on a compression characteristic of each block, while a

remainder of said blocks are not encrypted based on a compression characteristic of each block; and

uncompressing and outputting the digital content in a contaminated state including both the encrypted part thereof as well as the remaining unencrypted part of the digital content.

20. (New) The apparatus according to claim 19,

wherein the digital content includes motion image data in data compression MPEG (Moving Picture Experts Group) format having frames with predetermined compression characteristics, wherein said frames are used as said blocks, and further including a step of

encrypting a frame of a first compression characteristic and not encrypting a frame of a second compression characteristic.